

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
OF THE
whole worlde.

By George Horne, Preb. Ep.

WHEREIN ARE PARTICULARLY
described all the Monarchies,
Empires, and Kingdomes of the same:
with their severall Cities and
situations thereunto
adjoyning.

32 H 239



AT LONDON

Printed by T. Iudson, for Iohn Browne,
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The English Scholemaster. Lond. 1614. Edward Cotte.
The Art of English poëtie in 3 books. Lond. 1585. Gory. Pater.
Anatomy of y^e Depth of y^e anc. above modern poëts.
Jacobi Taurilli expositio patronymia. Vinet. 1565.
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BRIEFE DESCRIPTION OF THE WHOLE

WORLD.



THe globe of the earth,

doth eyther shewe the sea, or land.

The sea generall is called by the name of the OCEAN, which coasteth all the world, and taketh his name in speciall, eyther of the place neere which it commeth: as

Oceanus Britannicus: Mare Germanicum: Sinus Persicus: Mare Atlanticum, of the hill Atlas in the West part of Africke: or of the finder out: as *Fretum Magellanicum*, or of some other accident, as the Red sea, because the sand is red: *Mare Mediterraneum*: because it runneth betweene the landes of Europe, and Asike: *Mare Icarium*, because Icarus was drowned there, or the like: There be some few seas which haue no entercourse with the OCEAN, as *Mare mortuum* neare Palestina: *Mare Caspium*, *sive Hyganum*, not farre from Armenia, and such a one is said to be in the North part of America.

The Straites or narrow seas are noted in the Latine, by the name of *Fretum*: as *Fretum Britannicum*, the English narrowe seas, *Fretum Herculeum*, the straighes betweene Barbarie and Spaine, *Fretum Magellanicum*. &c.

The earth is either Islands, which are those that are wholly compassed by the sea, as *Britannia*, *Sicilia*, *Corsica*: or the continent, which is called in the English, the firme land.

De Hispania.

In the *Latine Continens.*

The olde knowne firme land was contained onely in Asia, Europe, and Africa. Europe is deuided from Africa by the *Mediterran sea* and from Asia by the riuer *Tanais*, whereby appeareth that the North partes of Asia, and of Europe in old time were but litle knowne, and discovered.

Africa is deuided from Europe by the *Mediterran sea*, from Asia by the riuer *Nilus*: and so Asia, by *Tanais* and *Nilus*, is seuered from Europe and Africa.

De Hispania.

TO say nothing of England and Ireland, the most westerne countie of Europe is Spaine, which is bordered on the South with the *Mediterran sea*, on the West with the *Atlanticke*, on the North with the *Oceanus Consuetudin*, or the Spanish seas, on the East, with France, from which it is seuered with certaine mountaines, called *Montes Pyrennei*, or the Pyrenei hills.

In this countie heretofore there were many kingdomes, as the kingdome of Portugale toward the West, the kingdome of Granada toward the South, the kingdome of Nauarre and Aragon toward the East, and the kingdome of Castile in the middle of the land: but the whole dominion is now vnder the king of Spaine.

De Gallia.

The next countie is France: which is bounded on the West with the Pyrenei hills: on the North with the English sea, on the East with Germany, and on the South with Italy.

De Gallia

East with the Alpes-hilles: on the South-west with the

This was in ancient time divided into three partes:
which is toward the West: *Gallia* toward the
North and West: and *Belgica* which is toward the North.
Belgica is four times called *Gallia belgica*; and sometime
Germania inferior; but we call it commonly by the name
of the Lowe countries: the gouernment whereof at this
day is not all vnder France: but *Gallia belgica* and *Aqui-
tania* are vnder the French king.

France hath many praiue gouernments that doe bor-
der vpon her: is the Duke of Savoye, the State of the Swi-
zer, the Dukedome of Lorraine, the Burgundians or Wal-
lons: against all which, the King is forced to keepe his fron-
tier townes.

There is nothing more famous in this kingdome then
the Salike lawe: whereby it is provided, that no woman
nor the child of her, as in her right, shall enioy the Crowne
of France: but in her right alwayes to the heire male.

The Switzer are a people called in olde time *Helveti*,
who haue no Noblemen or Gentlemen among them; but
only the citizens of their townes: the heirely officers
whereof, and their counsell, doe gouerne their State.

De Germania

The next countie vnto France, on the East-side, is
Germania, which is bounded on the West with
France, and the Lowe countries: on the North with Den-
marke, and the Danish seas: on the East with Prussia, Po-
lonia, and Hungarie: on the South-east with *Illyria*, and
Illyricum: on the South with the Alpes-hilles: with Italy.

The gouernment generall of this countie is called the
Emperour

De Italia

Emperour of Germanie; who is chosen by three spiritual princes, the Archbishop of Colen called *Colonyse*; the Archbishop of Mentz called *Mentz*; and the Archbishop of Tiers called *Triers*; and three temporal princes; the Duke of Saxonie; the Marques of Brandeburg; and the Countie Palatine of Rhine: which if they cannot agree, as to make a *Maie* pure in their election; then the king of Bohemie hath also a voyce: whom it cometh to to be saide, that there be seven Princes electors of his Empire.

There is not that free libertie of choosing the Emperour out of any countie, as was heretofore. But the election is tyed, within one hundred yeares unto the house of Austria; and at this day of of them the king of Bohemia is Emperour, who is called Rodolphus. 2.

Bohemia is a kingdome in the middle of Germanie, which is compassed rounde with a mightie waile, it is called *Siles Hircinia*: The chiefe citie thereof is called Prague.

In Germanie all are at a kinde of commandement of the Emperour: but most of the Princes (otherwise) take on them as absolute governours in their dominions: So that they have libertie of religion; they make lawes; they raise souldiers; they stamp coyns; with their owne coyns, as absolute princes. So doth the Duke of Saxonie, the Archbishop, and the rest.

There are also free States and cities: which haue the same authoritie, as Argentine, Frankford, and other.

De Italia

ON the South side of the Alpes (and Germanie lyeth Italie; stretching it selfe out in length towards the South, and East. It hath on the South side the Iland Sicilia: on the

De Italia

the East that part of the *Adriaticum*, which is called *Mare Adriaticum*, or *Mare superum*; which severeth Italie from Græcia on the West side; that part of the *Adriaticum* which is called *Mare Tyrrhenum*, or *Mare inferum*: and by some *Mare Ligusticum*.

This countie for the figure thereof, is by some likened unto a long leafe of a tree: it hath in the middle of it which goeth all in length, a mightie mountain, named *Monte Cæsinus*; which is likened to the spine or ridge-bone of the backe: out of this hill spring diuers Riuer, which runne on both sides of it, into the *Adriaticum* and *Tyrrhene*, & *Tuscan* seas.

The North parts of this Italie is that which in ancient time was called *Gallia Cispadana*, or *Gallia Cispina*, inhabited then by the French-men. It is now called *Lombardia*, or *Lombardie*, wherein stand many rich gouernments: as the Dukedome of Millaine, of Mantua; of Florence; and others. It is for the pleasantness thereof, in respect of the soile, aire, waters, and great variety of wines, and fruites, filled now by some to Paradise, or the garden of God.

In this Italie, which was heretofore one intire gouernment in the flourishing state of the Romanes, are now many absolute States, and principedomes, by the great policie of the Bishop of Rome: who thought it the best way to make himselfe great to weaken the Empire. So he hath not onely driven the Emperour out of all Italie into Germanie: but hath diminished his Maiestie in both by making so many petie gouernments, which hold themselves soveraigne rulers, without relation to any other.

As there are many States in Italie, so one of the chiefest are the Venicians called *Reip. Venetorum*, or the State of Venice: because they are not gouerned by any one: but by their Senate, & gentlemen, although they have a duke: with whose stamp their money is coyned, and in whose

name

De India

name all their excursions of force are done. But this duke is every way limited by the State.

This Cite of Venice standeth in an *isthmus* of shallow of earth in the North part of the *Adriaticke* sea, so fastly that it is held invincible. There is in it but one firme of firme land: into the other the sea doth flow at ebbing tide. They have beene a great and rich State; not onely possessing much in Italie, as Padua their Valuerdrie, and other things which nowe they doe; but a great part of Illyricum and many rich Islands in the *Aegean* and *Candie*, called commonly *Creta*, *Cyprus*, *Dacynus*, and other, and no small

1 The impouershing of their State, hath partly beene by the encroaching of the Turkes but especially by the decay- ing of that trafficke which they had to Alexandria in *Aegypt* for their spices, and other riches of Persia, Arabia, and the East Indies. Since the course of the Portugals to those Eastern countries hath beene by sea, by the backe side of Africa.

2 Here standeth the Cite of Florence, a renowned Cite of Lombardie, which is gouerned by a Duke, an absolute Prince. This Dukedome is in the familie of the *Medicees*, from whom came *Katherine de Medicee*, the wife of Henric the 2. King of France, lately so well knowne by the name of Queene mother.

3 In this Lombardie standeth also the Dukedome of Milan, a most rich and pleasant thing, which sometime had beene gouerned by a Duke of their owne: but of late hath bene possessed by the Spaniards, and sometime by the French, and is now in the gouernment and possession of the king of Spaine.

4 A good part of Italie is vnder the Bishop of Rome, which commonly is called the land of the Church, where the Pope is a Prince absolute; not onely spirituall, as also where hee claimeth but also temporall making lawes, requiring tribute.

ture, raising souldiers, and executing iustice as a Monarchie.
In the South part of Italie lieth the Kingdome of Naples;
which is a countie very rich, and full of all kind of pleasures,
abundant in Nobilitie; whereof cometh to bee said that
proverbe: Naples for Nobilitie, Rome for religion, Millaine
for beauty, Florence for policie, and Venice for riches.

This was heretofore ruled by a King of his owne; till
the time of Ioane Queene of Naples, who by deede of gift,
did first graunt that Kingdome to the Kings of Aragon in
Spain; and afterward by will (with a reuocation of the for-
mer graunt) did bequeath it to the house of Anioy in France.
Since which time the Kingdome of Naples hath sometimes
beene in the hand of the Spaniards, sometimes possessed by
the French, and is now vnder the King of Spaine: vnto this
is annexed also the Dukedome of Calabria.

There be moreover in Italie many other Prince-domes
and States; as the Dukedome of Ferrara, the Dukedome of
Mantua, the Dukedome of Urbine, the Dukedome of Par-
ma, & Placencia; the State of Lucce, the State of Genoa, com-
monly called the Genowaises, which are gouerned by their
Senate: but haue a Duke as they haue a Venice. There bee
also some other, by which meanes, the glory and strength of
Italy is decayed.

De Dania, Succia, & Noruegia.

A Sialie lieth on the Southside of Germanie, so Den-
marke lieth on the North, into the middle of which
land the sea breaketh in by a place called *the Sound*. The Im-
passe of which passage bringeth great riches, as an ordinarie
tribute to the King of Denmarke: this is a kingdome, and
ruled by an absolute gouernour.

On the North and East side of Denmarke lieth Suecia,
commonly called Sweden or Swethen: which is also a king-
dome

De Dania, Suecia, & Noruegia.

some of it selfe. Where the King professeth himselfe to be
Rex Sueconum, Gothorum, & Vandalorum. Whereby we may
know that the Gothes and Vandales which in times past did
waste Italie, and other Nations of Christendome, did come
out of this country.

On the Northside and West of Sweden lieth *Nordga*
or *Norway*. which is at this day vnder the gouernment of
the King of Denmarke; although heretofore it hath beene
a free longdome of it selfe.

Within the Sounde, on the East part of the sea, lieth
Dantzicke: where are three towne of Hanse-men, con-
federates, and allies vnto the King of Denmarke.

There is no great thing to be noted in these countries:
but that from Denmarke cometh much corne to the sup-
ply of other parts of Christendome: and that from all these
countries is brought great furniture for warre, or for ship-
ping. As matts, cables, Steele, Ladles, armour, gunpowder, &c
the like. And that in the seas adioyning to these parts, there
are fishes of much more monstrous shape, then else where
are to be found: The people of these countries are by their
profession, Lutherans for religion.

De Russia, sine Moscouia.

ON the East side of Sweden becometh the dominion of
the Emperour of Russia (although Russia, or Moscouia
it self doth lie somewhat more into the East) which is a great
and mightie Monarchie, extending it selfe euen from *Lap-*
land, and *Finnmarke*, many a thousand mile in length vnto
the *Caspian sea*: so that it containeth in it a great part of *Eur-*
ope, and much of *Asia* also.

The gouernour there calleth himselfe Emperour of *Rus-*
sia, great Duke of *Moscouia*, with many other titles of
Princesdomes, and *Cities*, whose dominion was very much
enlarged

De Russia, siue Adoscauid.

enlarged by the Emperour not long since dead: whome in
Russia they call *Ivan Vassilowitch*, in the Latine *Iohannes Bassil-*
des, who reigning long, and being fortunate in warre, did
very much enlarge this mightie dominion.

The people of this countrie are rude, and vnlearned, ve-
ry superstitious, a kinde of Christians: but rather following
the Greeke Church. Their buildings is most of wood, as
in their chiefe Citie of Mosco: inasmuch, that the Tartars,
wholy in the North-east of them brekling off into their
countreies, euen vnto the very Citie of Mosco, doe set fire on
their Citie, which by reason of their wooden buildings,
are quickly destroyed.

The passage by sea into this countrie (which was wont
to be through the Sound, and so afterward by land) was first
discovered by the English: who with great danger of the
frozen seas, did first aduenture to saile so far North, as to
compasse Lapland, Finmarke, Scrickfint, and Biarmia: and
so passing to the East by Nova Zembla, halfe the way almost
to Cathaio, haue entered the riuier called *Dana*: by which
they disperse themselves for marchandize both by water
& land, into the most parts of the dominie of the Emperour.

This Empire is at this day one of the greatest dominions
in the world: both for compasse of ground, and for multi-
tude of men: sauing that it lyeth far North, and so yeeldeth
not pleasure or goodtrafique, with many other of the best
nations.

De Prussia, & Polonia.

IN Europe, on the East and North corner of Germany
lyeth a countrie called Prussia, in Latine most times *Bor-*
ussia, in English *Prusbra*, or *Sprusa*: of whome, little is fa-
mous, sauing that they be gouerned by one, in a kinde of or-
der of religion, whome they call the Grand-master: and
that they are a meanes to keepe the Moscouite & the Turke
from some other partes of Christendome.

De Prussia, & Polonia. ¶

On the East-side of Germanie, betweene Ruffia, & Germanie, lyeth Polonia, or Poland, which is a kingdome differing from other of Europe: because the king there is chosen by election by some of the Princes neare adjoining, as was lately Henry the third, King of France. These elections oftentimes doe make great Seditions there: so that intestine partes, they grow often there into civil wars.

The king of Polonia is almost continually in wars, either with the Moscovier, who lyeth in the East and North-east of him; or with the Turke, who lyeth on the South and South-east; and sometimes also with the Princes of Germanie; whereupon the Poles doe commonly desire to chuse warriors to their King.

In this countie are none but Christians: but so, that libertye of all religions is permitted, inasmuch, that there be, Papists, Colleges of Iesuites, both of Lutherans, and Calvinistes opinions, Anabaptists, Arians and diuers others. This is that countie, which in times past was called Sarmatia, the chiefe cite whereof is named Cracoula.

De Hungaria, & Austria. ¶

On the South-side of Germanie lyeth Hungarie, called in the Latine *Pannonia*; which haue bene heretofore deuided into *Pannonia superior*, and *Pannonia inferior*; it is an absolute kingdome, and hath heretofore bene rich and populous. The Christians that doe liue there, haue among them diuers sortes of religions, as in Poland. The kingdome hath bene a great obstacle against the Turkes coming in to Christendome: but especially in the time of Iohannes Huniades, who did mightily with many great victories repulse the Turke. Here standeth *Buda*, which was heretofore a great forresse of Christendome. But the glory of this kingdome is almost venterly decayed, by reason that the Turke, who partly by policie and partly by force, doth now possess the greatest parte of it. So that the people are fled from

De Hungaria & Austria.

heretike, and the Christians which remaine there are in miserable seruitude: Notwithstanding some part of *Pannonia* doth yet belong to Christendome.

That corner of Germanie which lieth nearest to Hungarie is called *Austria*, which is an Archdukedome. Fro which house are come many of the Princes of Germanie, and of other parts of Europe: so that the Crowne imperiall of Germanie is now tied to some one of this house.

This countrie standeth *Vienna* that noble citie, which is now the principall bulwarke of all Christendome against the Turke: from whence Soliman was repelled by Ferdinandus King of Hungarie, in the time of the Emperour Charles the first. It was in this countrie that Richard the first, king of *England*, in his returne from the holy land, was taken prisoner by the Archduke of *Austria*, and so put to a grievous ranfome. The Archduke that now is by the King of Spaine, is appointed in the place of the Duke of Parma, as gouernour of the low countie. Through both *Austria* and *Hungarie* doth runne the mightie river *Danubius*, as through *Germanie* doth runne the *Rhene*, whereon groweth *Rhine wine*, commonly called *Rhenish wine*.

De Graecia.

ON the South-side of *Hungarie* and South-east, lyeth a countrie of Europe called in old time *Dacia*, which is large and wide, comprehending in it *Transilvania*, *Kalachia*, *Moldavia*, and *Serua*. Of which little is famous (saue that the men are warlike, and can hardly be brought to obedience). They haue lately bin vnder the King of Hungarie. The river *Danubius* doth diuide this *Dacia* from *Mosia*, commonly called *Bulgaria*, which lieth on the South from *Danubius*, and is secured from *Graecia* by the mountaine *Hemus*.

From *Hemus* towards the South lieth *Graecia*, bounded on the West by the *Adriaticke sea*, on the East by the *Thracian sea*, and *Mare Egeum*, on the South by the maine *Mediterranean*.

De Grecia

ter in sea. This contained in old time foure speciall parts *Peloponnesus*, *Thrace*, *Macedonia*, and *Epirus*.

Peloponnesus which is now called *Achaia* is the South part of *Greece*, being *Penninsula*, or almost an Island, for that it is ioyned by a little straight called *Isthmus*, unto the rest of *Greece*. Herein stood *Sparta*, and the ancient citie of *Lacedaemon*. On the *Isthmus* or straights stood the famous citie of *Corinth*, which was in old time called the key of *Greece*.

On the West side of *Greece*, next to *Peloponnesus*, stood the kingdom of *Macedonia*, so famous vnder Philip for conquering all *Greece*; and vnder Alexander, for vanquishing almost all the Easterne world, and for taking of the Monarchy from the Persians; and removing it to the Macedonians.

On the North side of *Macedonia*, being the North-west from *Greece*, stood the little kingdom of *Epirus*, where reigned Scanderbeg, which was in his time so great a scourge to the Turke.

The rest of *Greece* was called *Achaia*, having on the North and East part thereof *Thrace*, on the North *Hemus* the hill, on the West *Macedonia* and *Epirus*; on the South *Peloponnesus*; on the East those seas which divide *Asia* the lesse from *Greece*. In this part stood *Thessalonica*, to the which S. Paule wrote his Epistle; and *Athen*, and *Thebes*, and all the Cities of Boetia, and the Cities of the *Achaia*, *Argos*, *Elis*, and many other.

Macedonia is by the best Writers, and by ancient description rather found to stand on the North side of *Achaia*, neere to the hill *Hemus*, and to *Thracia*, though some in ignorance haue taught the contrarie.

In this countie of *Greece* were in ancient time manie Kingdoms and States, as at this day there are in *Italy*, as the *Macedonians*, the kingdom of *Epirus*, the State of *Achaia*, the government of *Sparta*, the citie of *Thebes*, and many other places: in so much that almost euery towne had a peculiar gouernment. But now it is all vnder one Monarchy.

From

De Graecia

From *Greece*, in old time, did almost all famous things come. These were they that made the warre against *Troy*; that resisted *Xerxes* the mightie king of *Persia*; that had the famous Law-makers; as *Solon* in *Athen*, and *Licurgus* in *Laconia*; that took away the Monarchie from the *Persians*; that brought forth the famous Captaines, as *Themistocles*, *Miltiades*, *Alexander*; and many other that were the Sunne of our world vnto the Westerne nations; and to some in the East; as *Antiochus*, that gaue to *Italie* and to the *Romanes* the first light of learning: because from them arose the first Poets, as *Homer*, *Hesiodus*, *Sophocles*, and diuerse other; the great Philosophers, namely *Socrates*, *Plato*, *Aristotle*, and all the Sects of the *Academy*, *Stoicks*, *Peripateticks*, *Epicureans*, and almost all their schollers; the great Oratours, *Demosthenes*, and *Eschines*; and in one worde (the *Mathematicks* excepted, which came rather from the *Caldians*, and the *Egyptians*) the whole flower of Artes and good learning.

On the North-east part of *Greece* standeth *Thracia*, which though heretofore it hath bene distinguished, yet now it is accounted as the chiefe part of *Greece*. Here on the edge of the sea coast, yett neere vnto *Asia*, standeth the citie called *Bisantium*; but since *Constantinople*, because *Constantine* the great did new build it, and made it an imperiall citie. This was the chiefe residence of the Emperour of *Greece*, sometimes called new *Rome*, and the glorie of the East; where the generall Councell was once assembled; and one of the sears of the Patriarke, who was called the Patriarke of *Constantinople*. But by the great discord of the Christians, all *Greece*, and this Citie is fallen into the hands of the *Turke*: who now maketh it his place of imperiall abode. It was wonne in the time of *Constantine* the last Emperour; so that by *Constantine* he obtained his honour, and by *Constantine* he lost it. In this citie lieth resident with the *Turke* an Embassidor of *Aggor* for the *Queens* of *England*. The Christians

char

De Mar inter Europam &c.

that doe line betweene Germanye & the Turkes. They disagree in many things from the doctrine of the Church of Rome. *De Mar inter Europam &c.*

De Mar Europam &c. Asiae

interiacente.

Thus it is before, that on the North part betweene *Asia* and *Europe* the river *Tanus* doth runne as a bounde of them both.

This river runneth into a lake called *Mazispahy*, which bordereth to the confines of *Syria* or *Taurus*.

This *Mazis* doth disburden it selfe into a wide sea called *Propontus*.

At the mouth of this sea is a very great straigh knowne by the name of *Thracian Bosphorus*, where the breadth of the sea is not above one mile, severing *Asia* and *Europe*. On the side of *Europe* standeth *Constantinople*: on the side of *Asia* a Cite called *Pera*, which for the defence, is by some reckoned a part of *Constantinople*.

After this straigh, the sea openeth it selfe more large towards the South, and is called by the name of *Propontus*. But then it groweth again into another straigh, which they write to be in breadth about two miles. This is called *Hellespontus*, having on the one side *Abdus* in *Asia*, and on the other side *Cestus* on the side of *Europe*.

This is that place, where *Xerxes* the great King of *Persia* did make his bridge over the sea, so much renowned in ancient histories, which was not impossible, by reason of the narrowness: the foundation of his bridge being rested on ships. Here also may appeare the reason of that storie of *Leander* and *Hero*: which *Leander*, is reported for the love of her, to have oftentimes swum over the sea, till at last he was drowned.

From this strait Southward, the sea groweth more wide, and

De Asia, & primo de Tartaria.

and is called afterwards by the name of *Mare Caspium* and
so descendeth into the full *Mare Caspium*.

De Asia, & primo de Tartaria.

ON the North side of Asia, lying vnto the dominion
of the Emperour of Russia in Tartaria, in ancient time
called Scythia: the bounds wherof did then extend them-
selves into a good parte of Europe, and thereof was called
Scythia Europaea: but the greater parte of it lay in Asia:
A mightie large countie, extending it selfe from the North
to the uttermost sea. On the East, to the dominion of the
great *Cham*, or Prince of Cathaio, on the South, downe to
the *Mare Caspium*.

The Tartarians which nowe inhabite it, are men of great
 stature, rude of behauiour, no Christians, but Gentiles: nei-
ther doe they acknowledge *Mahomet*. They haue fewe or
no Cities among them: but after the manner of the olde
Scythians, doe live in wildernes, lying vnder their canes,
and following their droanes of cattell, by the milke where-
of they doe nourish themselves. They soeue no come at all,
because they abide not long in any one place: but taking
their direction from the North pole starre, they remoue
from one coast of their countie vnto another.

The countie is populous: and the men are great warri-
ors, fighting alwayes on horsebacke with their bowe and
arrowes, and a short sword. They haue among them infi-
nite hostes of horses, whereof they sell many vnto the coun-
tries adioyning. Their ordinarie mode in their waies, is
horsebacke, which they vse to euerture, being chased a lit-
tle by hanging at their saddle.

They haue great warres with the countries adioyning:
but especially with the Moscovites, and sometimes with the
Turke. From hence came *Tamir-lan*, who broughte seven
hundred thousand of the Tartarians a once into the fieldes,
wherein he distressed and tooke prisoner, *Babur* the great

De Asia, & primo de Tartaria.

Turke; whom he afterwards forced to send a hundred under his table. They haue now among them many princes and gouernours, as those haue one, whom they call the *Crim Tartars*; and these haue another, which are the *Tartars of Russia*; and so diuers other.

The English haue laboured to their great expences, to finde out the way by the North Seas of *Tartaria*, to get into *Cathay* and *China*. But by reason of the frozen seas, they haue not yett pretailed. Although it be now reported, that the *Flemmings* haue discovered that passage, which is like to be to the great benefite of the Northern partes of *Christendome*.

De Cathaio. & China.

NEXT beyond *Tartaria* on the North-east parte of *Asia*, lieth the great countrey called *Kathaie*, or *Kathai*; the boundes whereof extend themselves on the North, and East, to the uttermost seas; and on the South to *China*. The people are not much leamed, but more ciuill then the *Tartars*, and haue good and ordinarie trafique with the countreies adioyning. This countrey hath in it many Kings, which are tributaries, and doe owe obedience vnto one, whom they call the great *Chan*, or *Can* of *Kathai*; who is the chiefe gouernour of all the land: and esteemed for multitude of people, and largenesse of Dominion, to be one of the great Princes of the world: but his name is the lesse famous; for that he lieth so farte distant from the best nations; and the passage vnto his countrey is so dangerous, either for the perils of the seas, or for the long space by land; his chiefe imperiall Citie is called *Cambalu*.

On the South-side of *Kathaie*, and East parte of *Asia* next to the sea, lieth *China*. The people whereof, *Olorius* describeth by the name of *Sin*; and calleth their countrey *Sin*. This is a fruitfull countrey, and yeeldeth great store of rich commodities as almost any countrey in the worlde.

De Cathaio, & China. C

woulde. It consisteth in it very many severall kingdomes, which are absolute Princes in their States. The chiefe citie in this countrie is called *Quinsay*, and is described to be of incredible greatnesse. Such a citie as were wont to bee in anntient time in the East: as Babylon, Nilus, and other. This countrie was first discovered by the late navigation of the Portugals into the East India.

The people of *China* are learned almost in all Artes, very skilfull workemen in curious fine workes of all sortes: so that no countrie yeeldeth more precious marchandize then the workmanship of them.

They are great souldiers, very politique and craftie, and in respecte thereof, concerning the wits of other: wing a Proverbe, that all Nations doe see but with one eye: but that themselves have two.

Petrus Mathæus historiographer to the King of Spaine for the Easterne Indies, doth reporte of them: that they have had from very anntient time among them: these two things, which we holde to be the miracles of Christendome, and but lately invented. The one is the use of guns for their warres, & the other is printing: which they use not as we do, writing from the left hand vnto the right: as the *Hebrewes*, and *Serious*: from the right hand vnto the left: but downward directly: & so their lines at the top to begin againe.

De India orientali.

ON the South side of China, toward the Molucco Islands, and the Indian sea, lyeth the great countrie of India: extending it selfe from the South-east part of the continent, by the space of many thousand miles west-ward vnto the river Indus, which is the greatest river in all that countrie, except *Ganges*, one of the greatest rivers in the world, which lyeth in the East part of the same Indies. This is that countrie, so famous in anntient time for the great riches thereof, for the multitude of people, for the conquest of *Bacchus*

De India orientali.

ouer it, for the passage thither of Alexander the great through all the length of Asia: for his adventuring to goe into the South Ocean with so mightie a Naue, which fewe or none had euer attempted before him.

This countrie had in auncient time many absolute kingdomes and princes; as in the time of Alexander, Pors, Taxiles, and diuers others. In it were many Philosophers, and men of great learning: whome they called *Gymnosophists*, of whome was Calanus, who burnt himselfe afore Alexander. The men of the South-part of India are blacke, and therefore are called men of Inde. The cattle of all sortes that are bred there, are of incredible bignes, in respect of other countreies: as their Elephants, Apes, Munkies, and such like. The riches herof hath bene very great with abundance of golde: insomuch, that the Promontorie which is now called Malacha, was in times past named *Aurea Chersonesus*. The commoditie of spice is exceeding great that cometh from thence. The Portugales were the first, which by their long navigations beyond the Equinoctiall, and the farthermost parts of Africa, haue of late yeares discovered these countreies of India. As heretofore of the King of Portugale: son now of the King of Spaine, who is reputed owner of them.

The Portugales did finde diuers small kingdomes at their first arriual in those partes, as the king of Calicut, from whence cometh our Calicut linnen: the king of Cambaia, the king of Canasor, the king of Cochia, and many other; with whome they first taking league for traffique, and hauing leaue given to build Castles for their defence, they haue since by pollicie, encroched into their handes a great parte of the countrie which lyeth neare vnto the sea-coast, and are mightie now, for the space of many thousand miles together. The king of Spaine hath there a vice-roy, whose residence is commonly in the Imperiall citie called Goa. They doe euery yeare send home great store

De Persia

More of their commodities into Spaine: with his liquor. The people of the countie when the Portugales came first thither, were for the most part Gentiles, believing no one God: But the Saracens, who reuerence the Prophet *Mohamet*, from the bays, or gulfes of Persia, and Arabia, did trafique much thither, so that *Mohamet* was known among them. But in one towne called *Canganor*, they founde diuers Christians, differing in many things from the Church of Rome, and rather agreeing with the Protestants, which Christians had receiued by force in their religion, from the time of *Thomas* the Apostle, by whom it is recorded by the ancient Ecclesiastical histories, that of India was conuene

De Persia

There be diuers countiees betwene *India* and *Persia*: but they are not famous. There is a large countie, which lieth farr West from *Solaga* as much on the North, as *India* and *Mada* on the West, *Sina*, and the *Holy Land*: but next vnto it *Meopannia* on the South, belonning Ocean, which entereth in notwithstanding, by a bay called *Sinus Persicus*.

This is that *Assyria*, which in ancient time was so renowned for the great riches and Empire thereof. These were they who took from the *Assyrians* the Monarchie, and did serue in their countie, the second great Empire, which beganne vnder *Cyrus*, and continued vnto *Darius*, who was ouerthrowne by *Alexander* the great. In this Countie reigned the great Kings, *Cyrus*, *Cambyses*, *Darius*, the sonne of *Hystaspes*, the great *Xerxes*, *Artaxerxes*, and many others, which in prophane writings are famous for their warres against the *Sythians*, *Egyptians*, and *Greeks*, and in the Scripture, for the deliuerie of the Iewes from *Babylon* by *Cyrus*, for building of the second Temple at *Ierusalem*: and for many things which are mentioned of them in the Prophesies of *Daniel*.

De Persia. ¶ T. 3. C.

The people of this nation, although they were in former times very notorious by reason of their great wealth, yet after that they lost their Monarchy by the *Medians*, they have growne great soldiers: and therefore as they ever did strongly defend themselves against the Romans: so in the time of Constantine, and the other Emperours: they were fearfull neighbours to the Roman government. And of late time they have strongly opposed themselves against the Turkes, ever making their peace good with them. They fight commonlie on horse backe, & are governed as in times past by a King: so now by an absolute ruler and mighty Prince: whom they tearme the Sharr, or Sophie of Persia. He hath many countries, and small Kings in Assyria, and Media, and the countries adjoining tributaries.

The Persians are all at this day Sarazens in religion, believing on *Mahomet*: but as Papists and protestants do differ in opinion concerning the same Christ, so do the Turkes and Persians about their *Mahomet*: the one regarding the other as hereticks with most deadly hatred. In so much that there be in this respect almost continuall warres betwene the Turkes, and the Persians.

De Parthia & Media.

ON the North east side of Persia, lieth that countie, which in old time was called *Parthia*, but now named *Arach*, of whose great warres with the Medians, or Armenians, or Romans in Tacitus, and ancient histories are told. The countie boundeth on Media by the West, which was in ancient time very full of people, whose fight as it is very much on horse backe, so the manner of them continually was for to give an onset, and then to mune their wayes: but to returne againe like to the wilde Irish, so that no man was sure when he had obtained any victorie over them.

These were the people that gave the great overthrow to that rich *Marcius Crassus* of Rome, who by reason his route

De Parthia & Media.

continually intending more to his getting of gold, then to the gaining of his name, was slain himselfe, & many thousand of the Romanes. The Parthians with exprobration of his theft after many pouring molten gold into his mouth after he was dead. Against these the great Lucullus fought many battailes: but the Romanes were neuer able to bring them quite to subiection.

On the West side of Parthia (the *Mare Caspium* being on the North, Armenia on the West, and Persia on the South). Here lieth that country which in times past was called Media, but now Shirum, or Serran: which is at this day governed by many inferiour Kings and Princes, which are tributaries, and doe owe subiection to the Emperour of Persia. So that he is the soueraigne Lord of all Media, as our English men haue found, who passing through the dominions of the Emperour of Russia, haue crossed the *Mare Caspium*, and strichanded with the inhabitants of this Media.

This Nation in former time was verie famous: for the Medes were they that rebould the Empire from the Assyrians, into them, which as first hath said it was not great. So when by Cyrus it was loyned by the Persians, it was verie mightie, and called by the name of the Empire of the Medes and Persians. Here it was that Astyages reigned, the grandfather of Cyrus, and Darius of the Medes: the chiefe citie of this kingdome, was called Ecbatana, as the chiefe citie of Persia is Babylon.

De Armenia & Assyria.

On the West side of the *Mare Caspium*, and of Media, lieth a countrie called by a generall name Armenia, which is by some distinctlie deuided into three partes: the North part whereof being but little, is called *Georgia*: the middle part *Turcomania*: and the thirde part, by the proper name of Armenia: by which a man may see the reason of difference in diuers writers. Some saying that the same is whence

De Armenia & Assyria. C

whence the Turkes first came, was Armenia: Some say *Turcomania*, and some *Georgia*; the truth being, that out of one, or all these countries they be descended. These Turkes are supposed to be the issue of them, whom Alexander the great did shut up within certaine mountaines neare to the *Alps* *Caspium*.

There is this one thing Memorable in Armenia: that after the great flood the Arke of Noah did rest it selfe on the mountaines of Armenia: whereas Iosephus witnesseth, it is to be seene yet to this day. The hills where it rested are called by some *Nir montes*. The people of this Nation haue retained among them the Christian faith, as it is thought from the time of the Apostles: but at this day it is spotted with many absurdities.

On the South parte of Armenia bending towards the East lieth the countrie of Assyria, which is bound'd on the West with Mesopotamia. This country was that land wherein the first Monarchie was seate, which began vnder *Ninus*, which the Scripoure calleth *Nimrod*, living not long after Noahs flood. And ended in Sardanapalus, continuing for the space of a thousand and three hundred yeeres. The King of this countrie was Sardanapalus, of whom we read in the booke of Kings: and here reigned Nabuchadnezzar, who tooke Ierusalem, and led the Iewes away prisoners vnto Babylon.

In this countrie, is the swift riuer Tygris, neare vnto the which, was Paradise: vpon this riuer stood the great citie Niniue, called by prophane writers Ninus: which was almost of incredible bignes, and exceeding populous. But the nearnesse of the riuer, and marvellous fruitfulness of the soyle, which Herodotus writeth, did returne their corne sometimes two, sometimes three hundred fold, and did yeelde sufficiencie for to maintaine it. This citie for a long time was the imperiall seat of the Monarchie: but being destroyed, as God foresaw, it should be by the Chaldeans, the residence

De Chaldeis

of the King, was afterwards removed vnto Babylon, a great
citie in Chaldea, first built by Semiramis.

De Chaldaea

Next vnto Assyria lieth Chaldea, hauing on the East side
Assyria, on the West Syria, or Paktania, on the North
Armenia, on the South the desert of Arabia. This countrie
is often called by the name of Mesopotamia, which name it
hath, because it lieth in the middle of two great riuers, Ty-
gris, and Euphrates: it is called also by the name of *Babilonia*,
which word if it be properly taken, doth signifie only that
part of the countrie which standeth about Babylon.

The chiefest citie thereof was Babylon, the ruines where-
of doe remaine to this day. It was a rich and most pleasant
citie for all kind of delight: and was the imperiall citie of
the Assyrians, where Nabuchadnessar, and other their great
kings did lie. It was to this citie, that the children of Israel
were caried captiues: which thereof was called the capti-
uitie of Babylon. The kings of Persia did also keepe their re-
sidence here: it was built vpon the riuers Euphrates, some
part of it standeth on the one side, and some on the other:
hauing for the foundresse, Semiramis, the wife of Ninus.

It is supposed by Diuines, that in this Mesopotamia, be-
tweene the riuers Tygris & Euphrates, Paradise did stand: this
was the countrie, wherein Abraham the Patriarke was borne:
vnto the which the Romanes could very hardly extend their
dominion. For they had much to do to get any such govern-
ment of any thing beyond the riuers Euphrates. From this
people it is thought that the wise men came, which brought
presents vnto Christ, by the guiding of a starre.

For as in India and all the Eastern parts, so especially in
this countrie, their Noble men and Priestes, and verie ma-
nie people, doe giue themselves to all Artes of diuination:
Here were the great Southsayers, Enchainers, and wise
men, as they call them: here the first Astrologians, which

D

are

De Asia minori.

are so described and denoted in the Scriptures: and against the inhabitants of Babylon and Chaldeas were the lawes of the Romantes made, against deuining Mathematicians, who in *Tullie de Diuinatione*, & *Cornelius Tacitus*, as also in the lawes of *Augustus Imperator*, are continually called by the name of Chaldeans: and in doeds from thence, and from the Egyptians, is supposed to haue sprung the subtile knowledge of *Astronomie*.

De Asia minori.

On the North-west side of *Asiaticus* lieth that countrie which is now called *Asiaticus* in times past *Asia minor*, hauing on the North side *Pontus Euxinus*, on the West the *Hellepontus*, and on the South the maine *Mare Mediterraneum*. In the auncient writers, both of the Grecians, and of the Romantes, this is oftentimes called by the single name of *Asia*, because it was best knowne vnto them, and they were not so much acquainted with the farther places of *Asia* the great.

This countrie in generall, for the fruitfulnessse of the land standing in so temperate a Climate, and for the conueniencie of the Sea euery way, and so many good haues, hath bene reputed alwayes a verie commodious and pleasurefull countrie. It is wholie at this day vnder the Turke. The mountaine *Taurus* goeth along from the West vnto the East part of it.

The greatnesse of it is such, that it hath comprehended many kingdomes and great prouinces, beside cities of great fame. On the South-east part thereof, neare *Palestina*, lieth *Cilicia*: the chiefe citie thereof is *Tarsus*, the countrie of *Saint Paul*: the place whither *Salomon* sent for great store of his golde, and prouision for the Temple, whither *Jonas* also fled, when he should haue gone to *Ninive*. In the straites of this *Cilicia*, neere to the mountaine *Taurus*, did *Alexander* giue the great overthrowe in person to *Darius*,

in

De Asia minori.

in the joyning of their first battail.

Westward from *Cilicia* lyeth the province called *Pamphilia* wherein standeth the citie *Selencia*, built by *Selencus*, one of the foure great successors of *Alexander the great*.

On the West of this *Pamphilia*, extending it selfe euen to the sea, is *Lydia*, where reigned sometime *Croesus*, who was so renowned for his aboundant riches. Herein standeth as a sea-towne, *Halicarnassus* in the countie of *Herodorus*, and of *Dionysius*, who wrote the *Romane Historie*: which citie was sometimes a kingdome, as in the time of *Xerxes*: to whose aide against the *Grecians*, did goe *Antimista*, the *Queene* of *Halicarnassus*, and here reigned *Ada*, another *Queene*, in the time of *Alexandres the great*.

Vpon the sea-coast Northward from *Lydia*, standeth diuers of these citiies, unto the which *Iohn* in his *Reuellation* did write his seuen Epistles, as *Smyrna*, *Pergamus*, *Sardis*, and *Ephesus*; but other of them, as *Laudia*, *Philadelphia*, *Thyatira*, doe stand more in the inland.

Sardis was a citie of great pleasure and profite, which is that place, the winning whereof by the *Greekes* did so displease one of the kings of *Persia*; that he caused in one day at dinner to be remembered unto him, that the *Grecians* had taken *Sardis*; and that he must not cease till he had recovered it againe.

Ephesus was one of the most famous citiies of the worlde, the greatest glorie whereof did arise by reason of the most magnificent Temple of *Diana*, which was at *Ephesus*: to the building whereof all *Asia* the lesse did verie bountifullly contribute.

It is reported to haue beene two hundred yeeres in building: and at seuen severall times, as others wise, so especiallie by lightning, to haue bin set on fire; but the final destruction of it was by a base person named *Herostratus*, who of purpose set on fire to make himselfe famous.

More Northward toward the Sea-coast lyeth *Phrygia*, which

De Asia minori.

which was the countrie from whence the Goddesse called *Bona Dea*, or *Pessunmia*, and *Cybele* was brought to Rome. In this countrie lived Gordius, who knitt that knot that Alexander cut: hoping thereby to obtaine (as an oracle had foretold) the whole kingdome of Asia. In this countrie stood Troy, the siege whereof by the Grecians, is made so famous by the Poetrie of Homer and of Virgil.

Yet Northward from Phrygia lieth the Countrie of Bithynia, which was sometimes a kingdome where Prius raigned, that had so much to doe with the Romanes. In this countrie standeth the cite *Nicaea*, where the first general Council was held against Arrius the Heretike, by Constantine the great: thereof called the *Nicene Council*. Here standeth also *Chalcedon*, where the fourth general Council was held by the Emperour Marrianus, against the heretike Nestorius.

From *Bithynia* Eastward, on the North-side of Asia the lesse, standeth the countrie of *Paphlagonia*, where was the cite built by Pompey the great, called of his name *Pompeopolis*. From thence Eastward, joining to Armenia, is the kingdome of *Capadocia*, which bordereth on Armenia: & Northward from thence, near to the sea called *Pontus Euxinus*, lieth the kingdome of Mithridates, which was called *Pontus*. This Mithridates had long warres with the Romanes, whose subjects he caused to be slaine all in one night throughout Asia the lesse. He was afterward ouerbrowne by Pompey the great Roman. By him was inuvented that preseruatiue against poison, which of his name is called Mithridate. There were also in Asia the lesse some other small countreies, as *Galatia*, *Lycia*, *Caria*, and some other.

De Syria, & Palestina.

Southward from *Cilicia*, and Asia the lesse, lieth Syria, called *Palestina*, hauing on the East *Mesopotamia*, on the South *Arabia*, on the West *Tyre* and *Sidon*, and the end of the *Mediterran*

De Syria, & Palestina.

Mediterranea. The people of this *Syria*, were in times past called the *Arameses*. In their language is the translation of the new Testament, called the *Syriack*.

In this countrie standeth *Antioch*, which was sometimes one of the famous Patriarks sees, and is a citie of reckoning vnto this day. Here also standeth now the Citie of *Aleppo*, which is a famous Mart towne for the Marchandizing of the *Persians*, and other of the East, and for the Turkes, and such countreys as bee adioyning. Here standeth also *Tripolis*.

The South part of *Syria*, lying downe toward *Egypt* and *Arabia*, was the place where the children of Israel did dwell; beeing a countrie but of small quantitie, not in length two hundred Italian miles: yet was so fruitfull, flowing with milk and honie (as the scripture calleth it) that both it did maintaine about thirtie kings and their people, before the coming of the children of Israel out of *Egypt*; and also was sufficient afterwarde to relieue the incredible number of the twelue tribes of Israel.

It was noted of this countrie, that whereas by the goodness of the Climate wherein it stood, and the fertilitye of the soile (but especially by the blessing of God) it was the most fruitfull land that was in the world: nowe our trauellers by experience doe finde the countrie, in respect of the fruitfulness, to bee changed; God cursing the land, together with the Townes, the inhabitants of it. It is obserued also for all the Easterne parts, that they are not so fertile as they haue beene in former ages. The earth as it were growing olde, which is an argument of the dissolution to come by the day of iudgement.

Through this countrie doth runne the riuer *Jordan*, which hath heretofore beene famous for the fruitfulness of the trees standing thereupon, and for the mildnesse of the aire, so that (as *Iosephus* writeth) when snow hath layen in other places of the land, about the riuer it hath bin so calme

De Syria, & Palaestina

that men did goe in single thinn linnen garments.

In this countie standeth the Lake, called *Lacus Asphaltites*, because of a kinde of slime, or *Bitumen*, which dayly it doth cast vp, being of force to ioyne stones exceeding fast in building.

This Lake is it, which is called *Mare mortuum*, a Sea, because it is salt and dead, for that no living thing is therein: the water whereof is so thicke, that fewe things will sinke therein: insomuch, that *Iosephus* saith, that an Oxen hauing all his legges bound, will not sinke in that water.

The nature of this lake was turned into this qualitie, when God did destroy *Sodome* and *Gomorrah*, and the cities adioyning with fire and brimstone from heauen: for *Sodome* and the other cities did stand neare vnto *Jordan*, and to the *Mare mortuum*: for the destruction of whome, all that coast to this day is a witnes: the earth smelling of brimstone, being desolate, and yeelding no fruite, sauing apples, and such, which growing with a faire shewe to the eye lyke other fruite: as sone as they are touched, turne presently to ashes: as besides *Iosephus*, *Solinus* doth witnes.

The land of *Palaestina* had for inhabitants all the twelue tribes of *Israell*, which were vnder one kingdome, till the time of *Rehoboam* the sonne of *Salomon*. But then were they deuided into two kingdomes: ten tribes being called *Israel*, and two being called *Juda*, whose chiefe Citie was called *Ierusalem*. Then the tribes after much Idolatrie, were caried prisoners into *Assyria*, and the kingdome dissolved: other people being placed in their roome in *Samaria*, and the countie adioyning.

The other two tribes were properly called the *Iewes*, & their land *Judaea*, which continued long after in *Ierusalem*, and thereabout, till the captiuitie of *Babylon*: where they liued for 70. yeares. They were afterward restored: but liued without glory till the comming of *Christ*. But since his time, for a curse vpon them and their children, for putting *Christ*

De Syria, & Palestina

his death, they are scattered vpon the face of the earth as runnagates, without certaine countie, King, Priest, or Prophet.

In their chief Citie *Ierusalem* was the Temple of God; first most gloriously built by Salomon, and afterwarde destroyed by Nabuchadnezzar. By the commandement of Cyrus King of *Persia*, was a second Temple built, much more base then the former: for besides the pooretie, and smallness of it, there wanted five things which were in the former, as the Iewes write. First the Ark of the chuenant: Secondly, the pee of Manna: Thirdly, the rod of Aaron: Fourthly, the two tables of the lawe written by the finger of God: and fifthly, the fire for the sacrifice which came downe from heauen. Herod the great, an Edomite stranger, hauing gotten the kingdome, contrary to the lawe of Moses, and knowing the people to be offended therewithall, to procure their fauour, did build a third Temple, much more glorious then the second, which was that Temple wherein our Saujour Christ and his Apostles did teach.

The Citie of *Ierusalem* was twise taken, and utterly laid desolate: first by Nabuchadnezzar at the captiuitie of *Babylon*: and secondly after the death of Christ by Vespasian the Romaine (who first began the siege) and by his sonne Titus, who was afterwarde Emperour of *Rome*: who brought such horrible desolation on that Citie, and the people thereof by fire, sword, and famine, that the lyke hath not bin read in any historie. He did afterwarde put thousands of them on some one day, to be deuoured by the beastes, which was a cruell custome of the Romaine magnificence.

After this destruction, the land of *Iudea*, and the ruines of *Ierusalem*, were possessed by some of the people adioyning, till that aboute 600. yeares since, the Sarazens did invade it: for the expelling of whom from thence, diuers Frenchmen, and other Christians, vnder the leading of Godfrey of Bullen, did assemble themselves: thinking it a great shame, that the Holy land as they called it, the Citie

of

De Syria, & Palestina.

of Ierusalem; and the place of the sepulchre of Christ, should be in the hands of the Infidels.

This Godfrey ruled in Ierusalem by the name of a Duke: but his successors after him, for the space of fixt score years, called themselves Kings of *Ierusalem*: about which time, Saladine who called himselfe King of *Egypt*, and *Ale*, the lesse, did win it from the Christians for the recovery whereof, Richard the first, King of England, together with the French King, and the King of *Cicilia*, did goe in person with their armies to Ierusalem: but although they wonne many thinges from the infidels, yet the ende was, that the Sarazens did retaine the Holy land.

The whole countie and cite of Ierusalem, are now in the dominion of the Turke: who notwithstanding for a great tribute, doeth suffer many Christians to abide there. There are therefore nowe two, or more monasteries, and religious houses where Friers doe abide; and make a good commodity by shewing of the sepulchre of Christ, and other monuments vnto such Christian pilgrims, as doe vse superstitiously to goe in pilgrimage to the Holy land. The King of Spaine calleth himselfe at this day, King of Ierusalem.

De Arabia.

NExt vnto the Holy land, lyeth the great countie of *Arabia*, hauing on the North parte *Palestina*, and *Mesopotamia*: on the East the gulfes of *Persia*: on the South the maine Ocean of *India* or *Ethiopia*: on the West, *Egypt*, and the great bay called *Sinus Arabicus*, or the redde sea. This countie is deuided into three partes: the North parte whereof, is called *Arabia deserta*; the South parte, which is the greatest, is named *Arabia Felix*, and in the middle betweene both, which for the aboundance of Rockes and Stones, is called *Arabia Petraea*, or *Petrosa*. The deserte of *Arabia* is that place, in which God after the delivery of the Israelites from *Egypt*, by passing through the red sea, did keepe

De Arabia.

keepe his people vnder Moyses for forty yeares, because of their rebellion, feeding them in the meane time with *Manna* from heauen, & fountaine with water miraculously drawne out of drie rockes: for the countrie hath vntill this water, almost no trees, and is vntill this barren for tillage or corne. There are no townes nor inhabitants in all this desert: in *Arabia Felix* are some, but not many.

Arabia Felix for fruitfulness of the ground, and convenient standing euery way towards the sea, is one of the best countries of the world: but the principall cause why it is called *Felix*, is for that it yeeldeth many things in abundance, which in other parts of the world are not to be had: as Frankincense, especially the most precious balmes, myrre, and many other, both fruits and spices, and it yeeldeth vntill this floure of some precious stones.

This is that countrie wherein *Mahomet* was borne, who being of meane parentage, was brought vp in his youth in the trade of merchandise: but afterward ioyning himselfe with theues and robbers, his life was to rob such marchants as passed through *Arabia*, and in this purpose hauing gotten together many of his owne countrymen, he had afterwarde a whole legion or more out of the Romanes souldiours: who being offended with *Heracles* the Romanes Emperour, for want of their pay, ioined themselves to him: so that at length hee had a great armie, wherewith hee spoyled the countrie adioyning.

To maintaine his credit & authoritie with his owne men, he fained that he had conference with the holy Ghost, at such time as he was troubled with the falling sicknes, and accordingly he ordained a new religion, consisting partly of Iewish ceremonies, and partly of Christian doctrine, and some other things of his owne inuention, that hee might inuenge both Iewes and Christians, and yet by his own fancy distinguish his followers from both. The booke of his religion is called the *Alcoran*. The people which were his Sec-

De Arabia.

arica, (whereas in deed they came of Hagar, the bondmaid of Sara, Abrahams wife: and therefore should ofust be called Jimacims, or Hagarims, because they would not seeme to be come of a bondwoman: and from him whom they suppose a ballard: they terme themselves Sarazens, as coming from Sara, they are called by some writers Arabian, in stead of Sarazens, their name being drawne from their first countrey.

In the countrey of *Arabia* standeth a cite called *Mekka*, which is the place where Mahomet was buried: and in remembrance of him there is built a great Temple: vnto the which the Turkes and Sarazens doe yearly goe on pilgrimage, as some Christians do to the Holie land. For they account Mahomet to be the greatest Prophet that euer came into the world: saying that there were three great Prophets, Moyses, Christ, and Mahomet: and as the doctrine of Moyses was bettered by Christ, so is the doctrine of Christ amended by Mahomet. In this respect, as we reckon the computation of our yeares from the incarnation of Christ, so the Sarazens account theirs from the time of Mahomet. The Turkes, whose time began now about two hundred yeares since, haue embraced the opinions and the religion of the Sarazens, concerning Mahomet.

On the West side of *Arabia*, betwene that and Egypt, lieth the gulfe called of that countrey, *Sinus Arabicus*, by some *Mare Erythreum*, but commonly the red Sea: not of one *Egyptus*, as some suppose, but because the sand and banks there about are of colour red. This is that sea, through the which, by Moyses, the people of Israel were led, when they fled out of Egypt from Pharaor: God causing, by his power, the waters to stand on both sides of them, which they passed through as on drie land.

This is that sea through the which, the spices of the East Indies were in times past brought to *Alexandria* in *Egypt*, and from thence dispersed into Christendome by the Venetians;

De Africa & Egypto.

seas, which spices and Apothicarie drugs are found to be far worse then before time they were, by reason of the great moisture which they take on the water, by the long navigation of the Portugales by the backe part of *Africa*.

This is that sea, through the which Salomon did send for his golde, and other precious marchandise vnto the East Indies, and not to the West Indies, as some lately haue disputed. Wherevnto the vanitie of that opinion may appeare, that America and the West Indies were knowne in the time of Salomon: for if he had sent thither, his course had bene along the *Africa*, and through the Straights of *Gibraltar*, commonly called *Straitus Herculeus*, betweene Spaine and Barbarie. But the Scripture telleth, that the nation which Salomon sent forth, was built at *Eseon Gabar*: which there also is said to stand on the red sea: so his course might be Eastward or Southward, not Westward.

In the desert of *Arabia* is the Mount *Sinay*: which by some is supposed to bee the same that is called the Mount *Sinai*: where manie thinke it was, that Abraham shoulde haue offered vp his sonne Isaac: but it is certaine, that it was the place, where God in the Wildernesse, did giue vnto the people of Israel his law of the ten commandements, with thundering, lightning, and earth-quake, in most fearefull manner.

De Africa, & Egypto.

From *Arabia*, and *Palestina*, toward the West, lyeth *Africa*, hauing on the North side, from the one end of it to the other, the *Mediterranean*. The greatest part of which countie, although it hath bene gelled at by winters in former time, yet because of the great heat of it, lying for the most parte vnder the *Zoni Torrida*, and for the Wilderneses therein, it was in former times supposed by manie, not to bee much inhabited: but of certaintie by all, vntill ite discovered, till the Portugales of late beganne their navigation.

De Africa & Egypto.

gation on the backe side of *Africa* to the East Indies. So exact a description is not therefore to be looked for, as hath beene of *Asia*, and *Eurupa*.

Ioynd to the Holy land by a little Isthmus is the countie of *Egypt*, which is a land most fruitful, as any almost in the world, although in these daies it doth not answer to the felicitie of former time. This is it which in the time of Ioseph did relieue Canaan with corn, and the familie of Iacob, which did so multiplie in the land of *Egypt*, that they were growne to an huge multitude, when God by Moses did deliver them from thence. This countie did yeeld exceeding abundance of corn unto the citie of Rome, whereupon *Egypt*, as well as *Cicilia*, was commonly called *Horreum populi Romani*.

It is obserued from all antiquitie, that almost neuer any raine did fall in the land of *Egypt*; whereupon the raining, with thunder, & lightening, and fire running on the ground, was so much the more strange: when God plagued Pharaoh in the dayes of Moses. But the flowing of the river Nile over all the countie (their cities onely and some fewe hills excepted) doth so water the earth, that it bringeth forth fruit abundantly. The flowing of which river yearly is one of the greatest miracles of the world, no man being able to yeeld a sufficient and assured reason thereof: although in Herodotus, and Diodorus Siculus, many probable causes and opinions are assigned thereof.

It is noted of this river, if in ordinarie places it doe flow vnder the height of fiftene cubites, that for want of moisture, the year is not fruitful; and if it do flow aboue seuentene cubites, that there is like to bee a dearth, by reason of the abundance of the moisture, the water lying longer on the land then the inhabitants do desire.

In *Egypt* hath learning bin very auncient. But especially the knowledge of Astronomie and Mathematicks: whereof before the time of Tullie, their Priests would report, that

they

De Africa, & Ægypto.

they had the discent for 1500. yeares exactly recorded, with obseruation Astrologicall: which as it is a fable, vnlesse they doe reckon their yeares by the Moone (as some suppose they did euery moneth, for a yeare) so it doth argue knowledge to haue bene among them very antient: their Priettes had among them a kinde of writing, and of describing thinges by picture: which they did call their *Hieroglyphica*.

This in times past was a kingdome, and by the Kinges thereof were built those great *Pyramides*, which were held to be one of the *Seuen wonders* of the world, being mightie huge buildings, erected of exceeding height, for the magnificence of their founders. There is part of two or three of them remaining vnto this day. In *Ægypt* did stand the great Citie *Memphis*, which is at this day called *Cairo*, one of the most famous Cities of the East. Here did Alexander build that Citie, which vnto this day is of his name called *Alexandria*, being now the greatest Citie of merchandize in all *Ægypt*: of which *Ammianus Marcellinus* doth obserue, that there is neuer any day, or almost hath euer bene: but that once in that day, the Sun hath bene seene to shine ouer *Alexandria*. This Citie was one of the foure principall seas, and remaineth so at this time.

This countrie was gouerned by a King, as long agoe, as almost any in the worlde. Here raigned *Amasis*, who made those good lawes spoken of by *Herodotus*, and *Diodorus Siculus*, in whose writings the antient customes of the *Ægyptians* are worthie to be read.

After Alexanders time, *Ptolomeus* one of his captaines had this kingdome, of whome all his successors were called *Ptolomeis*; as before time all their Kings were called *Pharaoh*. They continued long friends, and in league with the people of *Rome*, till the time of *Iulius Caesar*: but afterward they were as subiects to the *Romaines*, till the Empire did decaye.

De Cyrene & Africa minori.

When they had withdrawne themselves from the Ro-
maine gouernement, they set vp a Prince of their owne:
whome they termed the Sultan, or Souldan of *Egipt*: of
whome, about 400. yeares since, Saladine was one. But
when the race of these was out, the Mamalukes (who were
the garde of the Sultan, as the Janisaries to the Turke) ap-
pointed a Prince at their pleasure, till that now aboute an
100. yeares agoe, or lesse, the Turke possessed himselve
with sole gouernement of the countrie: so that at this day,
Egipt is wholly vnder the Turke.

There be Christians that now liue in *Egipt*, for their tri-
bute vnto the Turke, as they doe now in *Gracia*.

De Cyrene & Africa minori.

ON the West-side of *Egipt*, lying along the *Mediterr-*
ran, is a countrie which is called in old *Egipt* *Cyrene*:
wherein did stand that Oracle which was so famous in the
time of Alexander the great, called by the name of the
Temple or Oracle of *Iupiter Hammon*: whither, when Alex-
ander did repaire, as to aske counsell of himselfe and his suc-
cesse, the Priests being before taught what they should say,
did flatteringly professe him to be the sonne of a God, and
that he was to be adored: so that as the Oracle of *Delphus*,
and some other were plaine delusions of Satan, who did
raigne in that darke time of ignorance, so this of *Iupiter*
Hammon may be well supposed to bee nothing else but a
coufinage of the Priestes.

In this countrie and all neare aboute where the Oracle
stooke, are very great wildernesses: where did appeare to
Alexander, for foure dayes iourney, neither Grasse, Tree,
Water, Man, Bird, nor Beast; but onely a deep kinde of sand:
so that he was inforced to carry water with him for himselfe
and his company, and all other prouision on Camels backs.
At this day this countrie hath lost his olde name, and is re-
ckoned as a parte of *Egipt*, and lyeth vnder the Turke.

West.

De Cyrene & Africa minori.

Westward from hence, along the *Mediterran*, lyeth the countrie, which in antiquity time was called *Africa minor*: for as in *Africa* one part aboue another was by an excellencie called *Africa*, or *Africa* the lesse: so this parte of *Africa* was termed by the Romaines sometimes *Africa* simply, sometimes *Africa* the lesse. In this countrie did stand that place so famous, mentioned by Salust: vnder the name of *Phoeni Arx*, which was the bound in that time, betweene *Africa* and *Cyrene*.

On the North and East parte hereof, in the sea neare vnto the shore, was that quickeland, which in times past did destroy so many shippes: and was called *Syria Magna*: as also, on the North and West parte was the other land, called *Syria parua*. Some part of this countrie was heretofore vnder the Sultane of Egypt, whose dominion did extend in selfe so far to the West: & there it was deuided fro the kingdom of *Tunis*; but it is now wholly vnder the Turke, and is commonly reputed as a parte of *Barbarie*. For now by the generall name, from the confines of *Cyrene* vnto the West, as farre as Hercules his pillars, all the whole space is called *Barbarie*: though it containe in it diuers kingdomes, as *Tunis*, *Fessa*, and *Marocco*.

De Mauritania Caesariensi.

A Parte of that countrie, which by a generall name is called at this day *Barbarie*, hath in old time bin called *Mauritania*, which was deuided into two partes: the East part whereof next to *Africa minor*, was called by the Romaines *Mauritania Caesariensi*; as the other was called *Mauritania Tingitana*. In *Mauritania Caesariensi* was the countrie of *Numidia*, the people whereof were vsed in the warres of the *Carthaginians* as light-horse men, and for nimble seruices very active.

In the East parte of this countrie standing in the Sea, was that famous Citie of *Carthage*, supposed to be built by
Dido,

De Mauritania Caesariensis

Dido, who came from *Tyru*. This Citie was it which for the space of some hundred years contended with *Rome* for the Empire of the worlde. In the Romaine histories are recorded three great warres which the people of *Rome* had with the Citie of *Carthage*.

In the first of the three, their contention was for the Isles of *Cicilia*, *Corfica*, and *Sardinia*: when the victorie fell to the *Romains*, and the *Carthaginians* were glad to redetermine their peace with the leaving of those Ilands. The second warre was begunne by *Hannibal*, who brake the league, and after he had taken some parte of *Spaine* from the *Romains*, and sacked *Saguntum*, a citie of their friends, came first over the *Pyrenie* hills to *France*, then over the *Alpes* to *Italy*, where he overthrow the *Romans* in three great battails, and much endangered their state: he continued in *Italy* with his armie fixtee years: till *Scipio* attempting on *Carthage*, forced *Hannibal* to returne to rescue his owne countrie. There was *Hannibal* overthrowne, and his Citie put to a great pention by *Scipio*: who for his victorie there, was named *Africanus*.

In the third warre, because the people of *Carthage* still brake their league, their Citie was razed to the very ground, by the earnest and continuall sute of *Cato* the elder, fearing evermore so dangerous a neighbour, though *Scipio Nasica* counsell'd to the contrarie: fearing least if the dread of that enemy were taken away, the *Romans* would grow cyther to idleness, or to civill dissension, which after they did. It is reported of *Cato*, that he never spake his iudgement of any thing in the Senate, but his conclusion was this: Thus I thinke for this matter, and withall, that *Carthage* is to be razed downe. And *Scipio Nasica* would reply in his conclusion: Thus I thinke of this matter, and withall, that *Carthage* is not to be razed downe.

In this countrie towards the West not far from *Carthage* stood *Tyru*, wherof the younger *Cato* was termed *Cato Tirus*.

De Mauritania Tingitana.

because hee killed himselfe there, in the ciuill warres betwene Pompey and Caesar: because he would not come within the handes of his enimie Caesar. Not farre from thence Westwarde standeth *Alippon*, which was the Citie where *S. Austen* was Bishop. This whole countrie at this day is called the kingdome of *Tauis*, the king whereof is a kinde of Suspendarie vnto the great Turke. The people that inhabit there are generally Sarazens, and do professe Mahometts religion.

De Mauritania Tingitana.

The other part of Barbarie that lieth along the *Mediterranean*, farthest into the west was called in olde time *Mauritania Tingitana*. The people of which countrie were those which almost in all olde hystories were called by the name of *Maures*. Those of the other *Mauritania* being rather termed *Nomades*.

Into the Northwest part hereof did *Hercules* come, and there did set vp one of his pillars, which answereth to the other in Spaine, at the straights of *Gibraltar* in times past called *Prostrum Herculeum*. On the South part hereof lay the kingdome of *Borchus*, which in the time of *Marius* had so much to doe with the Romanes. In the West part of this *Mauritania*, standeth the hill called *Atlas minor*; and on the South part is the great hill called *Atlas maior*, whereof the maine Ocean which lieth betwene *Mauritania* and *Africa*, is called *Mare Atlanticum*. This hill is so high, that vnto those who stood on the bottome of it, it seemed to touch heauen with his top: whereupon grew that fable of the Poets, that *Atlas* was a giant, who helde vp heauen with his shoulder.

This countrie hath beene long inhabited by the Sarazens, who from thence, finding it to be but a short passage into Spaine, did go ouer now seuen hundred yeers agoe: and possessed there the kingdome of *Granada* on the South-side of

De Africa Tuncilana

Spain: till they were thence expelled by Ferdinandus and Elizabeth of Aragon King and Queen of Castile. In this countrie since that time haue the Spaniards taken some cities and holdes, and so also haue the Portugales, which by the diuers sort of historie haue often beene lost and wonne by them. Here it was that the Emperour Charles the fift had diuerse of his great warres agaynst the Moores, as well as in the kingdome of Tunis. For the assistance of one who claimed to bee King of a part of this Countrie, did Sebastian the king of Portugale goe with all his power into Africa, in the year 1578, where chancedly heeing himselfe, hee was slaine together with two others, dying that day, who claimed to bee Kings: so that there it was that the battaile was fought: whereof it is said, that three kinges dyed in one day: which battaile was the rine of the kingdome of Portugale: and the cause of the vniing of the Crowne of Spaine. Astrologers did suppose, that this blazing Starre which appeared the year before, did signifie that all empires should be destroyed, which should containe in it. This whole countrie doth containe in it, besides some imperiall government, even absolute kingdomes: the one the kingdome of Fez, or Fez, which lieth on the North part toward the Atlantic, and Spaine: the other is the kingdome of Marracco, which lieth from about the hill of the North to the South, and West part of *Agmatania*. These are both Sarazens, as he also their people, holding true league with the Turkeys, and with some other Christian Princes, a league onely for trafficke or Marchandise.

De reliquis Africa regionibus maritimis

From beyond the hills of *Agmatania*, vnto the South of *Fez*, is nothing almost in antiquitie worthy the reading, and

De reliquis Africae regionibus marit.

and those things which are written for the most part are fabulous. In the new Writers there are some few things to be observed. As first, that all the people in generall to the South, lying within the *Zona torrida*, are not onely blackish like the Moores, but are exceedingly blacke. And therefore as in olde time, by an excellencie, some of them were called *Nigri*, so that to this day they are named *Negros*, as those whom no men are blacker. Secondly, that the inhabitants of all these parts which border on the sea coast, euen unto *Cape de Good Hope*, have beene Gentiles, adoring Images and foolish shapes for their gods; neither hearing of Christ, nor beleauing on Mahomet, till such time as Portingales coming in among them, haue professed Christ for themselves; bin haue wonne some of the people to imitate their religion. Thirdly, that the Portingales passing along *Costa de Mar* the East Indies, haue tested themselves in many places of those countries, building Castles and towns for their owne safetie, and so keepe the people in subiection to their great commodities.

One of the first countries famous beyond *Morocco*, is *Guinea*, which we call *Ginea*; within the compass whereof lieth the cape called *Cape Verde*; and the other, the *Cape* of the three points, and the towne and Castle named *Sierra Leoa*, at which places commonly all trauiilers doe touch that doe passe that way for fresh water, and other shippe-provision. Our English men haue founde indige into the partes of this countrie, where their greatest commodities are golde, and Elephants teeth, and of both which there is very good store.

Beyond that toward the South, not farre from the equinoctiall line, is the kingdome of *Congo*, commonlie called *A Congo*. Where the Portingales at their first arrival, finding the people to be heathens without God, did induce them to a profession of Iesus Christ, and so bee baptized in great abundance, allowing of the principles

De reliquis Africae regionibus marit.

of religion: vntill such time as the Priests did teach them to leade their liues according vnto their profession: which the most part of them in no case enduring, they returned backe againe vnto their Gentilisme.

Beyond *Mancongo*, so farre to the South as almost ten degrees beyonde the tropicke of Capricorne, lieth the landes ende: which is a promontorie, now called by the name of *Caput bone spei*: which Vasco Gama the Portingale did discouer, and so called it: because hee had there good hope that the land did turne to the North and that following the course thereof, he might bee brought to *Arabia* and *Persia*: but especially to *Cabot* in *India*. Which course, when him selfe and other of his countymen after him did follow: they founde on the coast vp towards *Arabia*, the kingdome of *Mozambique*, *Melinde*, *Magadaga*, and others, whose people were all Gentiles, and now are in league with the Portingales: who haue built diuerse holdes for their safetie: of which Countries and manners of the people, he that listeth to reade, may finde much in the histories of *Olorius*, and *Petrus Massius*. But there is no matter of any great importance.

De Abissina, & imperio Prefbyteri Iohannis.

IN the inland of *Africa* lieth a verie large Countrey, extending it selfe on the East to some part of the reddie sea; on the South to the kingdome of *Melinde*, and a great way farther; on the North, vnto *Egypt*; on the West vnto *Mancongo*: the people whereof are called *Abissini*, and iustesse the dominion of him, whom wee commonly call in English *Prefster Iohn*: but in Latine some reatme him, *Procesius Iohannes*, because of his riches; but in the most part *Frashier Iohannes*: writing of him, that as he is a prince absolute, so he hath also a Priestlike, or Patriarchall function & iurisdiction among

De Abissinis. & Impe. Presbyt. Iohan.

among them. This is a very mightie prince, and reputed to be one of the greatest Emperours of the worlde.

What was knowne of this countie in former time was knowne vnder the name of *Aethiopia*: but the voyages of the Portugales in these late dayes haue best described it. The people therefore are Christians: as is also their prince: but differing in many things from the West Church: and in no sorte acknowledging any supreme prerogative of the Bishop of Rome. It is thought that they haue retained christianitie, euen from the time of our Saviour, being supposed to bee conuerted by the Chamberlaine of Candace the Queene of *Aethiopia*: who was instructed concerning Christ, by Phillip the Euang. in the *Actes* of the Apostles. *Euseb.* in his Ecclesiasticall storie doth make mention of this. But they doe to this day retaine Circumcision, whereof the reason may be, that the Eunuch their conuenter not hauing any further conference with the Apostle, nor any else for him, did receiue the ceremonies of the Church imperfectly, retaining Circumcision, which among the Iewes was not abolished, when he had conference with Phillip.

Within the dominion of Prester Iohn are the mountaines commonly called *Lame montes*, where is the first well-spring and arising of the riuer *Nylus*: which riuer running violently along this countie, and sometimes haultely increasing by the melting of much snow from the mountaines, would ouer-run and drown a great parte of *Aegypt*: but that is is staked by many ponds, dams, & sluices, which are within the dominion of Prester Iohn. And in respect hercof, for the maintenance of these, the Princes of *Aegypt* haue paid vnto the gouernor of *Abissinia* a great tribute time out of minde: which of late the great Turke supposing to bee a custome needlesse, did denye: till the people of the *Abissinia* by commandement of their Prince, did breake downe their dammes, and drowning *Aegypt*, did inforce the Turke to conuene this paye, and to giue much money for the newe making

De Abissinis, & Imp. Prasbit. Toban.

making of them very earnestly, to his great charge, desiring a peace.

There be other Countries in *Africa*, as *Agimbia*, *Libbia interior*, *Nubia*, and others of whom nothing is famous. But this may be said of *Africa* in general, that it bringeth forth store of all sortes of wilde beastes, as Elephants, Lyons, Panthers, Tigers, and the like: yea according to the Proverbe, *Africa semper aliquid apparet novi*. Oftentimes newe and strange shapes of beastes are brought forth thence. The reason wherof is, that the country being hot and full of wild detraffes which haue in them liue water, the beastes of all sortes are enforced to meete in those few watering places that be, where oftentimes contrarie kindes haue communion the one with the other: so that there ariseth newe kindes or species, which take the party of both. Such a one is the Leopard begotten of the Lyon, and the beaust called *Dardis*, somewhat resembling either of them. And thus far of *Africa*.

De Insulis septentrionalibus.

The Islands that doe lie in the North are in number almost infinite: the chiefe of them onely shall be briefly touched. Very faire to the North, in the same climate almost with Sweden that is vnder the very circle arctick, lieth *Ireland*, called in olde time *Thule*, which was then supposed to be the farthest parte of the worlde Northward, and therefore is called by Virgill, *Vltima Thule*: the countrey is tolde the people barbarous and theyeldeth liue commodities hauing Hables: in some parte of the yeare there is no night at all. Southward from thence lieth *Friseland* called in Latine *Frislandia*, whereas the *Frisland* ioyning to *Germanie*, is in Latine called *Frisia*. On the coast of *Germanie*, one of the seuentene prouinces is called *Zeeland*, which containeth in it diuers handes in whome little is famous, suuing that in one of them is *Flushing*, or *Flushing* a town

De Jussieu septentrionalis

south of warras and in *Arundel* in an other, a place of
 good matter. The States of the Lowe countries doe hold
 this province ward againe the King of *Spain*. These lands
 had bene much troubled of late with civil broiles of warrs
 The land that lyeth most West of any parte is *Wales*
 which had in it bene so many things of their owne, but
 the whole land is now annexed into the crowne of *England*.
 The people naturally rude and superstitious in the countrie
 good and frutesfull, but this for want of tillage in sundrie
 places; they suffer it to growe into bogges and desertes.
 This is one of the toughest (yet best) *Wines* which of some
 others that serpents and adders doe not breed here; and
 in the *Wine* of the same experience no fowles webbe
 is ever founde.

The most renowned Band in the world is *Albion* or *Britannia*, which hath heretofore continued in many several Kingdoms, but officially in the time of the Saxons. It hath now in the two Kingdoms of *England* and *Wales*; wherein are four several languages; first, the *English*, which the civil Scots doe barbarously speake; the *Welsh* tongue, which is the language of the most Britains; the *Cornish*, which is the proper Speech of *Cornwall*; and the *Irish*, which is spoken by the Scots who dwell on the West side of *Britain* neere into *Ireland*. The commodities of *England* and *Wales* are well knowne unto us and many of them may be exported in this reformation.

Anglia, Mors, Pons, Fons, Ecclesia, femina, lanca

This country, which in olden time was inhabited by the Brittaines, was entered upon by the Romanes, first vnder Julius Cæsar, and was long by them kept in subiection: but it was an error in them, when they wrote that England would bee denoted keepe to Wolfe, Iewas a foward conquest, and possessed by the Saxons, or in sound, 7 kings

De Insulis septentrionalibus.

at once did raigne here. After that the Danes out of *Danmark* did invade it, and much molest it. And lastly, vnder the leading of their Duke William, the *Normans* did conquer it, and established that gouernement, which to this day doth continue. And from whome, as from the Conquerour our ordinate computation is deriued. The *Scots* were in times past a most barbarous people, of whome *Saint Jerome* reporteth: that he sawe some of them in his time in France to feede on mans flesh. They were neuer wholly conquered by the Romaines.

There be very many little Ilandes adioyning vnto the great Iland *Britannia*. As at the very North-point of *Scotland* the *Orkades*, which are in number about 30. The chiefe whereof, is named *Orkney*: where the people are barbarous,

On the West-side of *Scotland* towards *Ireland*, lye the Ilandes called *Hebrides*: where inhabite the people ordinarily termed the *Redshankes*. Not farre from thence, is the Ile *Mona*, commonly called *The Ile of Man*. The peculiar iurisdiction of the Earles of *Darbie*, with homage notwithstanding reserved vnto the crowne of England.

On the North-part of *Wales*, is the Iland of *Anglesey*: which is reputed a distinct shiere towards France side: on the South-part of England, is the Ile of *Wight*: in Latine called *Ventus*: which is a good holde in the narrowe seas against the French. More neare France, are the Iles of *Garnesey*, and *Sernesey*, where they speake French, and are vnder the crowne of England. There be also many other, but of small accompt.

De Insulis in Mari Mediterraneo.

There be many Ilandes in the *Mediterran*, renowned in the olde writers: but the chiefe of them onely shall be touched. From the pillars of *Hercules* going Eastward, are two Ilands not farre from *Spain*: which in times past were

De Insulis, & Mari Mediterraneo.

were called *Insula Balearis*, for that the people off then did use, both for their delight and armour, Slings which they continually almost carried aboute them. And whereunto, as Plinius writeth: they did traine vp their children from their yongest yeares. Not giuing them any meate, till they had from some Post or Beame cast it downe with a sling. Of these were thoser Lindories, or Sling-casters, which the *Carthaginians*, and *Spaniards* did use in their warres against the *Romans*. The lesser of these, which lieth most West, was called in olde time *Minorica*; and at this day *Minorca*. The bigger which lieth more East, was called *Maiores*; and now *Majonica*. They are both vnder the dominion of the King of Spaine.

More Eastward in the sea called *Mare Tyrrenum*, or *Tyrrhenum*, lieth the Iland of *Corfica* ouer against *Genoa*, and direct Southward from thence, lieth the great Iland *Sardinia*: For the quiet possessing of which two, the warres were oftentimes renewed betwene the olde *Carthaginians* and the *Romans*. For these two Ilands lie in the middle very fitly. For both these are also at this day vnder the King of Spaine. And were the same which latche the Cardinal of Lorraine would perswade the old king of Nauarre in France, that if hee would leaue his religion, and become a Papist, the Spanish king should yeeld him either *Syracus*, or at the least *Corfica*, in recompence of *Pamplona*, and the rest of the kingdome of *Nauarre*; which the Spaniards by force did detaine from him.

Farther yet to the East, at the verie poynt of the South-part of *Italy*, lieth the great Iland of *Sicilia*, which some haue supposed to haue beene heretofore a part of the continent: but by an earth-quake and inundation of water, to haue bin rent off, and so made an Ileland. The figure of this Country, is *Triquetra*, or triangle three-square.

There was also great contention for the Countrey betwene the *Carthaginians* and the *Romans*: but the *R-*

De Insulis in Mari Mediterraneo.

mines obtrayned it, and had from thence exceeding store of corne yearelie: whereupon, *Cicilie* was called *Horreum P. Romanum*. Here stood the goodly cite called *Siracusa*, which was destroyed and sacked by Marcellus the Roman.

This was in times past a kingdom, where the two tyrants, the elder and the yonger *Dionysius* did reigne: where Hiero also, that great friend to the *Romanes* did remaine. It was afterward made a province, and governed by a Prator, or Deputie of the *Romanes*: whereof, *Verres* was one so intrenched against by *Tullie*. It grew afterwards to be a kingdom againe: insomuch, that *Tancredus* was King of *Cicilia*, who went to the taking of *Ierusalem* with Richard the second, king of England. Here was likewise *Phalaris* the tyrant so famous, king of *Agri-genium*.

This Countrey is now also vnder the King of Spaine: who among other titles, calleth himselfe king of both the *Cicilies*, reckoning this Iland for one, and that part of *Itale* for another, which is now called *Calabria*: and was in the Romanic hystories named *Magna Grecia*. There is nothing more renowned in all *Cicilia*, either with the newe or olde writers, then the mountaine *Aetna*: which beeing on the out-side ofte couered with snow, yet by a sulphurie, or brimstonic water, doth continuallie burne within: yea, so that whereas it was supposed in the ages last before vs, that the matter beeing consumed, the fire had ceased: twise in our age it hath broke forth againe, to the intollerable losse of all the Countrey adioyning: the ashes thereof, destroying rownes and fruites which were within the compasse of manie myles about.

This is that place whither *Empedocles* threw himselfe, that hee might bee reputed a God. This is it whereof *Virgill* doth make his tract called *Aenea*, which the Poets did report to be the shop of *Vulcan*: where the *Cyclops* did frame the thunderbolts for *Iupiter*: and to conclude, this is

De Insulis in Mari Mediterraneo.

it which some of our grosse Papists haue not feared to imagine to be the place of Purgatorie.

Not farre South from *Cicilia*, lieth the little Iland called in old time *Melita*, whence those dogs come, which were so much desired vnder the name of *Canes Melitenfes*. This is the countrie where S. Paul was cast vp, after his shipwracke in his iourney to *Rome*: where the Viper hanged on his hand, and did not hurt him.

This Countrie is now called *Malta*, and is one of the places most renowned in the worlde, for the repelling of the Turkes: when Soliman the Emperour of them, did send agaynst it a most mightie armie. It was then defended by those, who are called the knights of *Malta*: which by sea, doe great spoile to the gallies of the Turke that passe that way.

Neare vnto *Gracia* and *Peloponnesus*: on the West-side toward *Italie*, is the Ile *Corcyra*, nowe rearm'd *Corfue*: and not far South from that, is *Cephalonia*, and from thence South is *Zani*: called by Virgill *Nemorisæ Zaxinthus*: all which Ilands haue bene heretofore vnder the *Venetians*: but are now vnder the Turke.

In *Zaxinthus*, our English marchants haue an house of abode for their trafique. Southeast from *Moria*, lieth the great Iland *Creta*, where Minos sometime did raigne, so famous for his seueritie. This countrie was then called *Hecatompolis*, as hauing in it an hundred townes and cities.

The Turkes haue wonne this also long since from the *Venetians*: it is now called *Candie*, from whence commeth our ordinarie sugar of *Candie*. Betweene *Creta* and *Peloponnesus* lieth *Cythera*, where was the fine Temple of *Venus*: who thereof by the Poets, is called *Cytherea*.

The Ilandes are many, which doe lie in the sea called *Mare Aegæum*, from the bottome of *Greece*, vnto the top of the *Hellispont*: as all the *Cyclades*, *Euboea*, the great Iland *Samos*, and *Chios*, so *Seyra*, where Achilles was borne,

De Insulis in Mari Mediterraneo.

and was king of that countrie. There was also *Lesbos*, & *Lemnos*, *Metilene*, and *Ithaca*, where *Ulisles* was king, and *Andros*, whether *Themistocles* was sent by the *Athenians* for tribute : of which places, something may be read in the olde historie of the *Greekes*; Diuers of these did striue that *Homer* was borne in them : but of certaintie, many of those kinges which *Homer* saith, came with *Agamemnon* to the siege of *Troye* : were kings but of these small Ilands.

Eastward from thence, not farre from some parte of *Natolia*, or *Asia the lesse*, is the Iland *Rhodus* : the friendship of the inhabitants whereof, was in auncient time very much desired by the Princes that had to doe that way. So that *Alexander* first, and the *Romaines* afterwarde did embrace their league.

Here was that huge and mightie image of the Sunne, which was *Cholosus Rhodius*,

This countrie was long defended by those, who were called the *Knights of the Rhodes*, against the power of the *Turke*; and it was a great bulwarke, to defend *Christendome* till that in the yeare one thousand five hundred twentie and two : *Solimon the great Turke* did winne it from the *Christians* by force. From thence Southward, is the Ile of *Carpasus* : but in the farther end of the East parte of the *Mediterraneum* is *Cyprus*, which about 300. yeares since was a kingdome, & did afforde great aide to the *Christians*, that went to conquer the Holy land : but it is now vnder the *Turke*. The chiefe Citie thereof is *Famagusta*, which is an *Archbishoppes* see : for *Christians* for their tribute doe yet liue there. In this countrey in olde time was *Venus* much honoured, and thereof it was called *Cypria*, as also *Paphia* : because shee had a Temple in a Citie there called *Paphos*.

Neare vnto *Siria* stood the Iland *Tirus*, against the pride whereof, the *Prophets* doe so much speake. This was a rich citie for merchandise and nauigation in olde time, and is the

De Insulis in Mare Indico.

is the place from whence *Dido* and the builders of *Carthage* did come.

The destruction of it is most famous by *Alexander* the greare. Of the rest of the small Ilandes, wee doe say nothing.

De insulis in Mare Indico.

THe Ilandes are very many that doe lie in the seas adjoining to the East Indies : but the most famous among them shall be touched. Among the olde writers, as especially appeareth by *Salinus*, was well knowne that which was then called *Taprobana*, which lieth vnder the Equinoctiall line. It was in that time a Maonarchy, where the Kings raigned, not by succession, but by election: and if any of them did grow intollerable, he was deposed, and inforced to die, with withdrawing from him all things necessary. This is nowe called *Sumatra*, and hath in it diuers Kings.

Not far fro thence lyc Eastward the two Ilandes called *Iaua maior*, and *Iaua minor*: which were also known to the olde writers, they haue also in them diuers Kings, as in generall may be noted, that all the East part, either in the continent, or in the Iland, haue very many small Kings and kingdomes. From thence yet more East, lieth a great number of Iles, which are now called the *Molucces*, which are places as rich for their quantity as anie in the world. From these it is, that the Spaniards haue yearly so greate quantitie of all kindes of spice: neither is there any place of all the East Indies, that do more richly furnish home their caracates then do these *Molucces*.

Some of these Ilandes, the Spaniards haue gorte into their owne possession: with the Kings of some other they haue league: and a third sorte viterly detest them. More North ward ouer against China, lieth a greate Iland called *Iapona* or *Japan*: the people whereof, are much of the same nature with the men of China. This countrey was first dis-

De Insulis in Mari Atlantico.

covered by the Iesuites, who in a blinde zeale have traualled vnto the farthest partes of the worlde, to winne men to their religion; this Ilande is thought to bee very rich. The rest that bee either neare vnto *Asia*, or vnto *Africa*; because there is little written of them we passe ouer.

De Insulis in Mari Atlantico.

There bee many Ilands which lie West-ward from *Africa*, and from *Europe*, as those which are called the *Gorgades*, that lie in the same climate with *Guinea*, which are foure in number: but not inhabited by men; but they are full of Goates. North-ward from thence in the same climate with the South-part of *Marocco*, lie those which are called *Canaria*, or the fortunate Ilandes, which are seuen in number, being most fruitfull and very pleasant: and therefore called by that name. This is famous in them that it hath pleased all Cosmographers to make their Meridiane to be the first poynte where they doe beginne to reckon the computation of their longitude, and vnto them after three hundred and threescore degrees, to returne againe. From these Ilandes it is that those strong and pleasant sackes which are called *Canari wines* are brought, and from thence are fetched those which they call *Canarie Birdes*: these Ilandes are vnder the Crowne of *Spaine*.

More Northward from thence, lye these Ilandes which are called *Azores insula*, being fixe or seuen in number: of which *Tercera* is one of the chiefe: of whome, the rest by some are called the *Tercerales*, which are farre inferiour in fruitfulnessse vnto the *Canaries*, these were first vnder the Crowne of *Portugale*: and one of them was the last which was kept out from the King of *Spaine* by the *Prior don Antonio*: who now calleth himselfe King of *Portugale*: but the Spaniard at the last rooke this *Tercera* from him, and doeth possesse all these Ilandes together with the rest of the dominion, which did belong to the *Poringale*.

De America siue Orbe novo.

Although some dispute out of Plato, and the olde writers that there was not onely a gesse, but a kinde of knowledge in auncient time, that besides *Europa*, *Asia*, and *Africa*: there was another large countrey lying to the West, yet he that shall aduisedly vie the conjectures made thereupon, may see that there is nothing of sufficiency to enforce any such knowledge: but that all antiquitie was vtterly ignorant of the newe founde countries towards the West: wherunto this one argument most forcible may giue credite: that at the first arriuing of the Spaniards there, they founde in those partes nothing shewing trafique or knowledge of any other Nation: but the people naked, vnciuill: some of them deuourers of mans flesh, ignorant of shipping, without all kinde of learning, hauing no remembrance of historie or writing among them, neuer hauing heard of any such religion as in other places of the world is knowen: but being vtterly ignorant of Scripture, or Christ, or Moyses, or any God: neither hauing among them any token of crosse, Church, Temple, or deuotion agreeing with other Nations: and thus much obserued, the Spaniards God therofore remembre the prophecie of his sonne, that the Gospell of the kingdome should before the day of iudgement be preached in all coastes and quarters of the worlde: and in his mercie intending to free the people, or at the least some fewe of them from the bondage of Satan: who did detain them in blockish ignorance, and from their Idolatrous seruice, vnto certaine vile spirites, whome they called their *Zemrs*, and most obsequiously did adore them: and raised vp the spirit of a man worthie of perpetuall memorie: one *Christophorus Columbus*, borne at *Genoa* in *Italy*, to set his minde to the discouery of a new worlde. Who finding by that compasse of the olde knowen worlde, that there must needs bee a much more mightie space, which the sun by his dayly morio did compasse aboute, then

De America siue orbe nouo.

that which was already knowne and discovered: and conceiuing that this huge quantitie might as well by land as sea, could neuer satisfie himselfe, till that hee might attempt to make proofe of the veritie thereof.

Being therefore himselfe a priuate man, and of more vertue then abilitie. After his reasons and demonstrations layd downe: whereby hee might enduce men, that it was no vaine thing which he went about. Hee went vnto many of the Princes of Christendome: and among other, vnto Henrie the seueneth, then King of England: desiring to bee furnished with shipping and men fitt for such a nauigation. But these men refusing him: partly, because they gaue no credite vnto his newe narration: and partly, least they should be denied by their neighbour Princes, if by this Genoway stranger they should be confounded: but especiallie, for that they were vnwilling to sustaine the charges of shipping. At last hee betaketh himselfe vnto the court of Ferdinandus and Elizabeth King and Queene of Castile: where also at the first, hee found but colde entertainment, yec persisting in his purpose without wearinesse, and with great importunitie: it pleased God to moue the minde of Elizabeth the Queene, to deale with her husbände to furnish him forth two shippes for the discouerie onely, and not for conquest. Whereupon, Columbus in the yeare 1492. accompanied with his brother Bartholomeus Columbus, and manie Spaniards: sayled faste to the West, for the space of three score dayes and more. with the great indignation and often mutinies of his companie: fearing that by reason of their long distance from home, they shoulde neuer returne againe. In so much, that the generall, after many perswasions of them to goe forwards, was at length enforced to craue but three dayes: wherein, if they sawe no land, he promised to returne; and God did so blesse him, to the end that this voyage might not prooue in vaine, that in that space, one of his companie did espie fire: which was a certaine

De America siue orbe nouo.

certaine arguments that they were neare to the land, as it fell out in deede. The first land whereunto they came was an Island, called by the inhabitants *Hini*. But in remembrance of *Spain* from whence he came: he termed it *Hispaniola*, and finding it to bee a countrie full of pleasure, and aboundaunce of gold and pearle, he proceeded farther, and discovered another bigge Ile which is called *Cuba*, of the which being verie glad, with great treasure, hee returned into *Spain*, bringing ioyfull newes of his happie successe.

The Spaniards who by nature are a people proude, have since the death of Columbus, laboured to obscure his fame, enuying that an Italian or stranger should be reported to be the first discoverer of those parts, and therefore haue in their writings since giuen forth: that there was a Spaniard which had first bene there, and that Columbus meeting with his cards and descriptions, did but pursue his enterprise, and assume the glorie to himselfe. But this fable of theirs doth fauour of the same spirit, wherewithall many of them in his life time did reprobach him, that it was no matter of importance to find out these countries: but that if he had not done it, many other might, and would which being spoken to Columbus at a solempne dinner, he called for an egge, and willed all the guests one after another to set it vp on end, which when they could not do, he gently bruising the one ende of it, did make it flat, and so set it vp: by imitation whereof, each of the other did the same: whereby he mildlie did reprobach their enuie toward him, and shewd how easie it was to do that which a man had seene done before him. To go forward therefore, Columbus being returned to Castile, after his welcome to the Princes, was made great Admirall of *Spain*, and with a new fleet of more shippes, was sent to search farther, which he accordingly did, and quickly found the maine land, not farre off from the Tropicke of *Cancer*, which part of the countrie, in honour of *Spain*, hee called

De America sine orbe noua.

Hispania noua; and in respect whereof at this day the King of Spaine doth entitle himselfe *Hispaniarum Rex*. They found the people both of the maine land and *Indies* very exceeding in numbers naked without clothes or armour: sowing no corne, but making their bread of a kinde of root which they call *Maies*. Men most ignorant of all kinde of learning: admiring the Christians as if they had beene sent downe from heauen, and thinking them to be immortall: wondering at their Shippes, and the tackling thereof: for they had no shippes of their owne, but bigge roughes which they call their *Canoes*: beeing made hollowe of the bodie of one Tree with the sharpe bones of fishes: for iron, or such like instruments they haue none. The Spaniards did here finde the people to be most simple without fraude, giuing them kinde entertainment according to their best manner, exchanging for knives, glasse, and such like toys, great abundance of golde and pearle. The desire whereof caused the Spaniards to seek farther into the countie: but their tyrannie and covetousnesse of the Spaniards was such in taking from them their goods, in deflowering their wiuers and daughters: but especially in forcing them to labour in their golde mines without measure, as if they had beent beasts: that the people detesting them, and the name of Christians for their sakes, did some of them kill themselves: and the mothers destroyed their children in their bellies, that they might not be borne to serue so base a Nation: and some of them did in waite conspire against them: so that by slaughter and otherwise, the people of the countie are almost all wasted nowe within an hundred yeres, being before many millions: those which remaine are in slaues, and the Spaniards almost ouer doe inhabit those parts. By reason that the countie is exceeding rich and fruitfull.

Departibus Americenis, &c.

full, the Spaniards with great desire did spreade themselves
towards the Monby, where they founde booke resistance: al-
though nothing in comparisn of warriours; but the great-
est of their labour was, for to conquere the kingdome of
Monica, which *Monica* is a Citie, vnder great and po-
pulous, as almost any in the world, standing in the midst
of a great marish, in some. The conqueror of this, was
Ferdinando Cortes, formerly a commoner in Spaine, who
this day is on his way, to be made a noble knight.
In the Recovery of all this *New Hispania*, the Kings of
Spaine haue built many Townes and Castles, and therein
haue erected diuerse fornaes and forges, for the tryng and
fining of their gold.

De partibus Americae venit

De partibus Americae versus

Septentrionem:

THe renown of the discovery of these partes being
blowne over Christendome: and the great quantitie of
richland, together with the friendship of the Indians, being re-
puted as a good fortune: other Nations did betooke to seek
liberties aboutely by the Fastlands, who first certaine things
was a part of this countrey, lying North from *Mispania* neare,
some fewe degrees within the Tropike of Cancer: into
which when they did arrive because of the continual good-
nesse of the ground, and trees, which had bene a perpetual
spring, they called it *Florida*: where after some fewe of them
that first discovered themselves, the Spaniards tooke notice
of it: and being ready willing to endure any such neighbour,
they came hither to them, and most cruelly flue them
kill, without making any remorse, yet the Spaniards for many
yeares did not goe into this Florida countrey, but leave it to
the old people: now thus it hath fallen out, that to this day

The Englishman's allusions by navigation to ride
H 2 some

De partibus Americæ versum, &c.

something vnto their owne countie: as before time they had traualled toward the farthest North part of *America*, to lately finding that part which lieth betweene *Florida*; and *Nova Francia*, was not inhabited by any Christians, and was a land verie fruitfull and fit to plant in, they sent thither two severall times, two severall companies, as Colonies to inhabit that part, which in remembrance of the virginity of their Queene, they named *Virginia*. But this voyage being interpreted on the charge of private men: and notwithstanding being followed by the State, the possession of this *Virginia* is now discontinued, and the countie at this present left to the old inhabitants.

Northward from thence on the sea-coast, both *Norumbega*, which is the South-part of that which the Frenchmen did without disturbance of any Christian for a time possesse.

For the Frenchmen did discover a large part of *America*, on toward the circle Arctick, and did build there some townes, and named it of their owne countie, *Nova Francia*. The Englishmen about the yeare 1570. did adventure farre, for to open the North partes of *America*; and sayled as farre as the very circle Arcticke, hoping for to have found a passage by the North to the *Moluccas*, and to *China*, which hitherto, neither by the North of *Africa*, nor by the North of *America*, could bee effected by them, by reason of the verie great cold and ice in that climate. The rest of the Inland being an huge space of earth, hath not hitherto by any Christians, any purpose bene discovered, but by those neare the sea-coasts it may bee gathered, that they all which doe there inhabite: are men rude and vncivil, without knowledge of God. Yet on the North-west part of *America*, some of our Englishmen going through the straights of *Magellan*, and passing toward the North by *Hispânia nova*, have touched on a Countie where they found

De Peru & Brasilia.

found good entertainment: the King thereof yeelding himselfe to the subiection of the Queene of England: whereupon they teamed it *Nova Albion*.

De Peru & Brasilia.

WHEN the Portugales had first begun their navigation by *Africa* vnto the East Indies; some of them intending to haue helde their course Eastward vnto *Caput bonae spei*, were driuen so farre Westward by tempest, that they landed in a large and great countrey, which by a generall name, is called *Brasilia*: where they began to enter trafique, and with Townes and Castles to plant themselves, before that the Spaniards had discovered *Peru*, which is the South parte of *America*. So that at this day, whatfoeuer the King of Spaine hath in *Brasilia*, it is in right of the crowne of Portugale. The countrie is large, hauing in it many people and seuerall kingdomes which are not all possessed by the Portugals: but so, that other Christians, as namely the Frenchmen, being driuen out of their countrie for religion, haue set footing there: though afterwards againe they haue abandoned it.

The inhabitants heretof, are men also utterly vnlearned, but men more ingenious then the common sorte of the *American*: goodly of bodie, and straight of proportion, going alwayes naked, reasonable good warriors after their countrie fashion: vsing to eat such enemies as they take in the warres, that afterwards they may deuoure them, which they doe with great pleasure. For diuers of the people of these quarters, as the *Cagibles* and the *Canibals*, are all eaters of mans flesh. In this countrie groweth abundance of that wood, which since is brought into *Europe* for to dye red colours, and is of the place whence it commeth, called *Brasil wood*, the trees whereof are exceeding great.

After that the Spaniards had for a time possessed *Hispami*, for the desire of gold and pearle, some of them travelled

De Peru & Brasilia.

uelled towards the South. And as by water they founde that
sea Westward from Peru (which is alwayes very calme, and
is by them called the South-sea, as the other wherein *Cuba*
standeth, is termed the North-sea.) so by land, they founde
that huge & mightie countrie which is named *Peru*: where-
in the people are for the most parte very barbarous; and
without God, men of great stature; yea, some of them farre
higher then the ordinarie sorte of men in France, yung to
shoote strongly with bowes made of fische bones, and most
cruell people to their enemies. Among these, the Spaniards
partly by force, but especially by perfidious treason, did get
infinite lummies of golde and pearle: wherch being allu-
red, and hoping for more (by reason that a great parte heret-
of, lyeth vnder the *Dona Torrida*) They haue heare and there
scatteringly vpon the best coastes, serup some Townes and
Castles; but are not able to possesse almost any thing of
the land: neither haue they as yet discovered the inwarde
partes thereof. Some of these Spaniards desirous for to see
how farre this land of *Peru* did goe towards the South, tra-
uelled downe till at length they founde the landes end, and
a little straight or narrow sea: which did runne from the
maine Ocean towards *Africa* into the South-sea. One *Ma-*
gelanus was he that found this straight, and (although it be
dangerous) passed thorowe it: so that of his name, it is cal-
led *Fretum Magelanicum*, or *Magelanes* straighes. And this
is the way whereby, as the Spaniards doe passe to the back-
side of *Peru*, and *Hispania nova*; for, whosoever will com-
passe the whole worlde (as some of our English haue done)
He must of necessitye, for any thing that is yet knowne, passe
thorowe this narrow straight.

Magellanus did finde on the other side towards the Pole,
the maine continent: which also the *Portingales*, in their
voyages to the East *Indies* haue sometimes bene driven v-
to: wherof nothing is discovered: but that in one place
they did see abundance of Parats, and greater then ordina-

rie:

De Peru, & Brasilia.

tie: whereof they did call it *Pfatacorum regio*.

This is thought to be a mightie huge countrie, conteyning in compasse all the degrees of longitude, in the continent thereof, and is supposed to goe vnto the South pole: By reason that no sea is yet founde to breake in, or breake through the same.

There be also described by some of our late writers, certaine great Landes towards the North-pole. And our English-men in their Navigations haue touched *Gronland*: but the nature of them, and whether they be such, and so many as is reported, is not certainly knowne.

FINIS.

